

EDMC

Post-Closure Groundwater Monitoring
Plan for the 1324-N Surface
Impoundment and 1324-NA Percolation
Pond

M. J. Hartman

August November 2004

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Post-Closure Groundwater Monitoring Plan for the 1324-N Surface Impoundment and 1324-NA Percolation Pond

M. J. Hartman

July-November 2004

Prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract DE-AC06-76RL01830

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Richland, Washington 99352

Executive Summary

The 1324-N Surface Impoundment (1324-N) and the 1324-NA Percolation Pond (1324-NA), located in the 100-N Area of the Hanford Site, are regulated units under the *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act* (RCRA). Surface and underground features of these units have been removed, and laboratory analyses showed that the soil met closure performance standards. The sites have been backfilled and revegetated.

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) asked Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to prepare this plan as part of the Groundwater Performance Assessment Project (groundwater project). This document will replace the previous RCRA monitoring plans (Hartman 2002 and RCRA monitoring portion of Borghese et al. 1996) for the 1324-NA units after it is incorporated into the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit.

This document describes RCRA post-closure monitoring for the period following surface closure until a final groundwater record of decision is issued for the 100-NR-2 Operable Unit, of which 1324-N and 1324-NA groundwater is a part. After final groundwater remedial action decisions are made for the 100-NR-2 Operable Unit, this plan may need revision to reflect those decisions.

The monitoring network comprises the following near-field-wells, which will be sampled semiannually:

		•		!
Near-Field	l Wells	Plume-Tra	acking Wells	
<u>199-N-59</u>	•	<u>199-N-2</u>	199-N-26	
199-N-71 (up	gradient)	<u>199-N-3</u>	199-N-34	
<u>199-N-72</u>		<u> 199-N-16</u>	<u> 199-N-56</u>	
<u>199-N-73</u>		<u>199-N-19</u>	<u> 199-N-57</u>	1
199-N-77 (dee	eper well)	<u>199-N-21</u>	199-N-64	i
	·		<u> 199-N-67</u>	
	Near-l	ield Wells	Plume-Tra	cking Wells
	199-N-59		199-N-2	199-N-26
	199-N-71	(upgradient)	199-N-3	<u>199-N-34</u>
	199-N-72		<u>199-N-16</u>	199-N-56
	199-N-73		199-N-19	<u> 199-N-57</u>
•	199-N-77	(deeper well)	<u>199-N-21</u>	<u> 199-N-64</u>
			•	199-N-67
	Near-I	ield Wells	Plume-Tra	cking Wells
•	199-N-59		199-N-2	199-N-26
	199-N-71	(upgradient)	199-N-3	199-N-34
•	199-N-72		199-N-16	199 <u>-N-56</u>
	199-N-73	4	199-N-19	199-N-57
	<u>199-N-77</u>	(deeper well)	<u>199-N-21</u>	<u> 199-N-64</u>
٠				<u>199-N-67</u>
-	199 N 59			

199-N-71 (upgradient)

199 N 72 199 N 73 199 N 77 (deeper well)

— Data from additional wells that are sampled for the objectives of other RCRA units, 100 NR 2 Operable Unit, or the *Atomic Energy Act*, will be used to define the sulfate and sodium plumes. Those wells generally are sampled annually.

The wells will be sampled for the following parameters: The downgradient, near-field wells are sampled semiannually and the other wells are sampled annually for the following parameters:

Constituents of Interest	Supporting Constituents
Sulfate	Water Level
Sodium	pH
	Specific conductance
X	Temperature
	Turbidity
	Alkalinity
	Anions
	Metals (filtered)

RCRA groundwater monitoring for the 1324-N and 1324-NA units is part of the groundwater project. Project staff schedule sampling and initiate paperwork. The project uses subcontractors for sample collection, shipping, and analysis. The groundwater project's quality control program is designed to assess and enhance the reliability and validity of groundwater data. This is accomplished through evaluating the results of quality control samples, conducting audits, and validating groundwater data.

— Sections 1.0 through 5.0 of this document are intended to be incorporated into the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit. Other portions of the document are not intended for incorporation into the Permit. References are intended to be deleted prior to incorporation in the Permit.

Acknowledgments

Many thanks to Christopher Thompson of the Groundwater Project, who provided the Quality Control information presented in this document. Thanks also to Stuart Luttrell for providing a peer review.

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1.0 Introduction

The 1324-N Surface Impoundment and 1324-NA Percolation Pond Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) units are *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act* (RCRA) regulated units in 100-N Area of the Hanford Site. This document describes RCRA post-closure groundwater monitoring, conducted as part of Hanford's groundwater project. This monitoring plan will be implemented upon approval of a modification to the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit that incorporates portions of this plan.

Sections 1.0 through 5.0 of this document are intended to be incorporated into the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit. Other portions of the document are not intended for incorporation into the Permit. References are intended to be deleted prior to incorporation in the Permit.

The 1324-NA units (Figure 1.1) were used to treat and dispose of effluent from a water demineralization plant and related units. The 1324-NA Percolation Pond (also known as the 120-N-1 waste site) was an unlined pond used to neutralize and dispose of corrosive waste from 1977 to 1986 and to dispose of pre-neutralized waste from 1986 through 1991. The adjacent 1324-N Surface Impoundment (also known as the 120-N-2 waste site) was used to neutralize waste from 1986 to 1988. It was a double-lined pond with a leachate collection system. No leaks were detected throughout its period of use.

Soil samples were collected from the site in 1992 and 1993 from the surface to as deep as 23 meters. The samples were analyzed for heavy metals, organics, cyanide, pH, and anions. Organic constituents were not detected, and concentrations of other constituents were within background ranges (DOE 2002).

As required by the closure plan, surface facilities (sampling shed, liner) and underground features (leachate collection system, delivery pipeline) have been removed. Samples were collected from soil remaining at this site. Results indicate the remedial action objectives have been met (BHI 2002). The sites have been backfilled and revegetated. A Certification of Closure by a professional engineer has been completed for these units.^(a)

The units are combined into a single waste management area for groundwater monitoring because they are adjacent to one another and the same type of waste was treated or stored in both. The 1324-NA Percolation Pond has contaminated groundwater with sulfate. Post-closure groundwater monitoring is required due to this contamination.

The closure plan for the 1324-N and 1324-NA units states, "During the post-closure period, monitoring of groundwater will continue under a corrective action program in accordance with WAC 173-303-645(11). A groundwater monitoring plan will be developed for 1324-N and 1324-NA and implemented prior to incorporation of this post-closure plan into the Permit. ... Because the groundwater monitoring data continues to show exceedances of sulfate concentrations above the secondary drinking water standard (250 mg/L), corrective action to remove or treat the sulfate will be required. Corrective actions will be determined in a ROD for the 100-NR-2 OU" (Appendix B of DOE 2002).

⁽a) Letter from J. Hebdon, U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) to M. Wilson, Washington State Department of Ecology, "Certification of Closure for the 1324-N Surface Impoundment and 1324-NA Percolation Pond," dated February 7, 2003.

The final decision for cleanup of the sulfate plume will be made as part of the 100-NR-2 groundwater operable unit, which includes groundwater beneath the entire 100-N Area. Until that decision is made, the objectives of RCRA post-closure monitoring are (a) to track trends in sulfate compared to the drinking water standard, and (b) to define the extent of the sulfate plume. Thus, no statistical evaluations are necessary.

This monitoring plan will be modified, as necessary, to reflect the final record of decision for the 100-NR-2 Operable Unit.

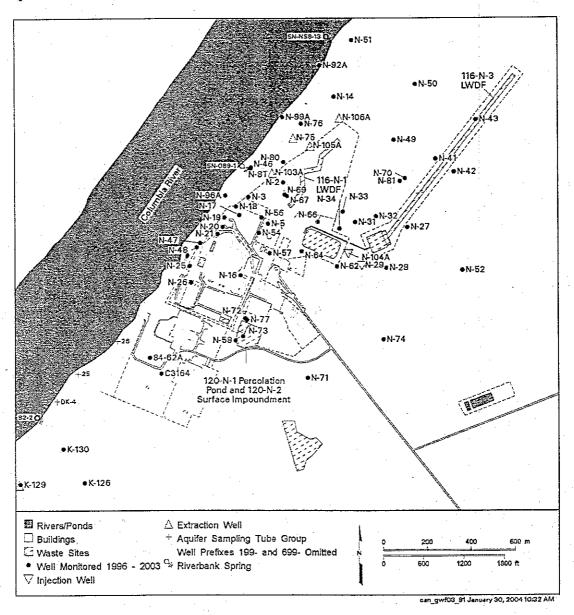


Figure 1.1. Groundwater Monitoring Wells in 100-N Area

1.1 Waste Characteristics

The effluent discharged to the 1324-N and 1324-NA units originated at the 163-N Demineralizer Plant and the 183-N Filtered Water Plant. Neither effluent stream contained listed constituents (WAC 173-303-090). However, effluent from the demineralizer plant was classified as corrosive dangerous waste (see current Part A permit application for the TSD units). Table 1.1 contains selected results of chemical analyses of effluent streams while the units were in use.

Table 1.1. Selected Results of Waste Analysis of 163-N Demineralization Plant Effluent,
August 1987, and 183-N Filtered Water Plant Backwash Effluent, August 1985 (from Appendix B of DOE 2002)

Parameter (minimum detection limit, units)	163-N Demineralization Plant (corrosive waste) ^(a)	183-N Filtered Water Plant (non-dangerous effluent) ^(b)
Calcium (0.05 mg/L)	318.3/ND	17.4
Chloride (0.5 mg/L)	1.9/2.4	2.81
pH (standard units)	0.917/13.74	7.46
Potassium (0.1 mg/L)	14.2/26.7	0.792
Nitrate (0.5 mg/L)	0.8/1.1	0.596
Sodium (0.1 mg/L)	12.8/27,150	2.23
Sulfate (0.5 mg/L)	3,201/30.7	19.7
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	37,367/64,000	153

⁽a) Average for cation regeneration cycle/Average for anion regeneration cycle.

The dangerous waste treated and disposed of at these units was produced by the regeneration of ion exchange columns in the 163-N Demineralizer Plant. The waste consisted of acid and caustic regeneration fluids and process and cooling water flushes. The pH of the demineralized water plant waste varied from less than 1.0 to as high as 14 standard units. These discharges qualified as corrosive dangerous waste defined in WAC 173-303-090(6)(a)(i). The regeneration solutions would have contained a variety of metal constituents as a result of concentration on the ion exchange media. These metals were not detected at levels that would regulate them as characteristic waste (WAC 173-303-090).

1.2 Post-Closure Monitoring Approach

Post-closure monitoring at the 1324-N and 1324-NA units has been developed to meet the standards for a corrective-action monitoring program under WAC 173-303-645(11). The interim remedial action record of decision for the 100-NR-1 and 100-NR-2 Operable Units (ROD 1999) explains that, "It is the intent of the Tri-Parties to select the same remedy for sites requiring RCRA corrective action as selected for those sites requiring Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) interim remedial actions." Until a final decision on remedial action of the sulfate plume is made for the 100-NR-2 Operable Unit, the plume will attenuate due to spreading, movement, and chemical interaction with sediment. RCRA groundwater monitoring during this initial period of post-closure monitoring will focus on defining sulfate concentration trends and plume extent, and comparing concentrations to the 250-mg/L secondary drinking water standard. This objective complements operable unit monitoring, which includes an objective to "...further define the extent and nature of contaminant

⁽b) Average.

ND = not detected

plumes for the other contaminants of concern, [including] sulfate.... This... objective will provide information that can be used to help determine a final groundwater remedial action...." (ROD 1999).

1.3 Summary of Previous RCRA Groundwater Monitoring

RCRA groundwater monitoring at the 1324-N and 1324-NA site began in December 1987. After the first year of background monitoring, the critical mean value for specific conductance was exceeded in all downgradient wells then in use (199-N-58 through 199-N-61). The site was monitored under an interim status assessment program from 1989 until 1992. The assessment report (Hartman 1992) concluded that the elevated specific conductance was due to sulfate and sodium. From 1993 until 1995, the site was monitored under another interim status assessment program for elevated total organic halides. The associated assessment report (Hartman 1995) concluded that elevated total organic halides originated from nondangerous discharges to a nearby facility, and interim status indicator-evaluation monitoring resumed. Total organic halide levels subsequently declined to background, but specific conductance in downgradient wells continues to exceed the critical mean value.

When 1324-N and 1324-NA were incorporated into the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit in 1999, monitoring continued under the existing interim-status plan (Borghese et al. 1996 with details in Hartman 1996 and subsequently in Hartman 2002). Interim-status indicator evaluation monitoring continued before and during the closure period.

Groundwater monitoring shows the continued presence of elevated sulfate and sodium, with correspondingly high specific conductance. The sulfate plume extends toward the Columbia River (Figure 1.2). Only well 199-N-59 exceeded the secondary drinking water standard for sulfate (250 mg/L) in fiscal years 2001 or 2002. The maximum sulfate concentration in this well during fiscal year 2002 was 384 mg/L. Well 199-N-59 could not be sampled in fiscal years 2003 or 2004 because it was dry. Sulfate concentrations have been below the primary drinking water standard (500 mg/L) in all wells since 1991.

While the 1324-NA Percolation Pond was in use, sulfate concentrations in adjacent wells reached peaks of 1,500 to greater than 2,000 mg/L. Well 199-N-59 is the only original monitoring well that did not go dry in 1990. Sulfate concentrations in this well declined sharply after discharges ceased in 1990 (Figure 1.3) and occasionally were below the drinking water standard between 1991 and 1995. After 1995, sulfate levels gradually rose and stabilized at ~300 mg/L in well 199-N-59.

Sulfate trends in wells 199-N-72 and 199-N-73, installed in 1991, were relatively low during the first two to three years of monitoring, then sharply increased, peaking around 1995 (Figure 1.4). Levels have declined steadily since then. Sulfate concentrations currently are lower in these wells than in well 199-N-59. These differences may reflect vertical or horizontal heterogeneities in the sulfate plume.

Nitrate is elevated in groundwater beneath several portions of 100-N Area, including the 1324-N and 1324-NA site (Figure 1.5). The source is not believed to be the 1324-N or 1324-NA units because analysis of waste while the units were in use showed only low concentrations of nitrate (see Table 1.1). Nitrate concentrations also were low in groundwater samples collected before 1991 while the 1324-NA Percolation Pond was in use (Figure 1.6).

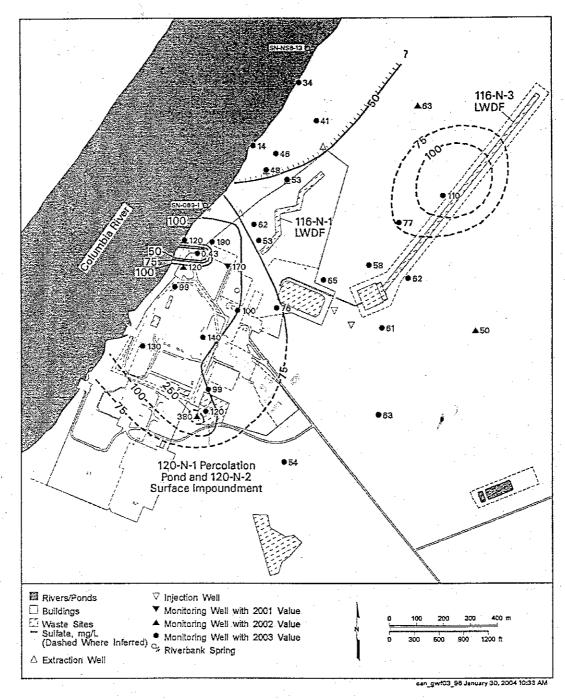


Figure 1.2. Average Sulfate Concentrations in 100-N Area

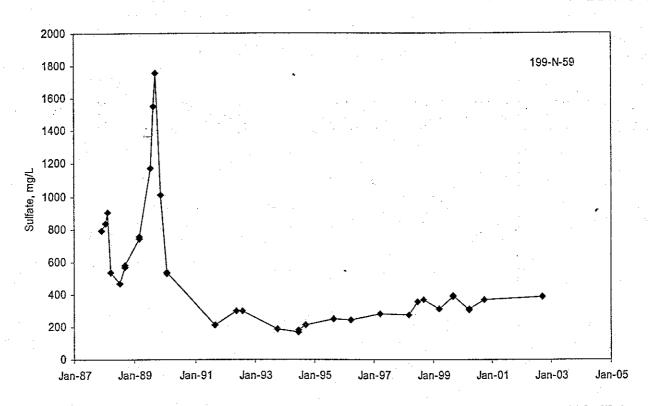


Figure 1.3. Long-Term Sulfate Trend in Well 199-N-59, Monitoring 1324-N and 1324-NA Units

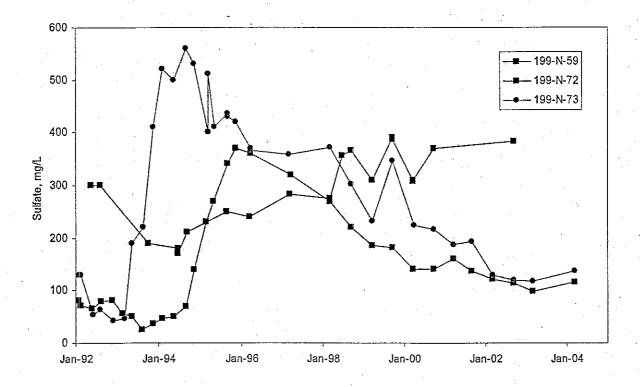


Figure 1.4. Sulfate Trends in Wells 199-N-59, 199-N-72, and 199-N-73, Monitoring 1324-N and 1324-NA Units

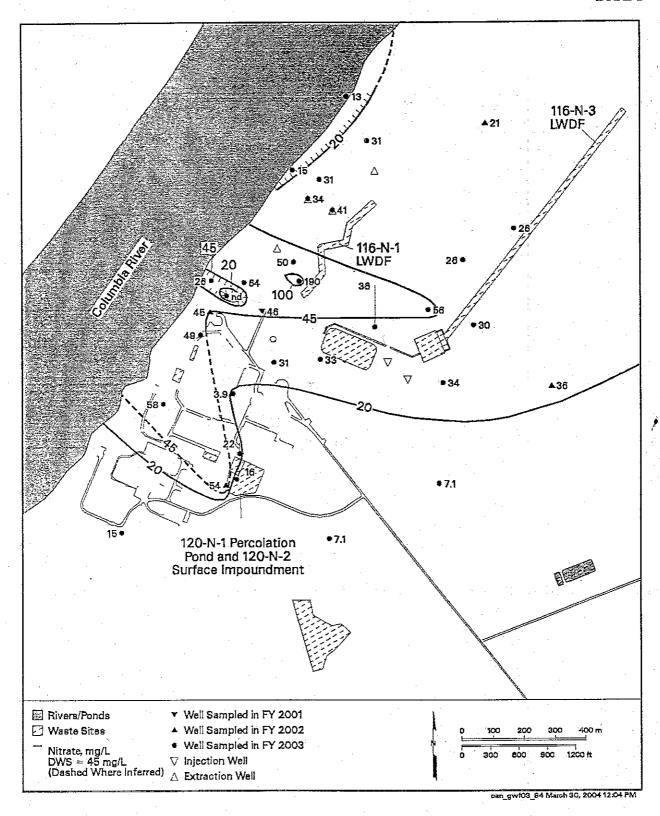


Figure 1.5. Average Nitrate Concentrations in 100-N Area

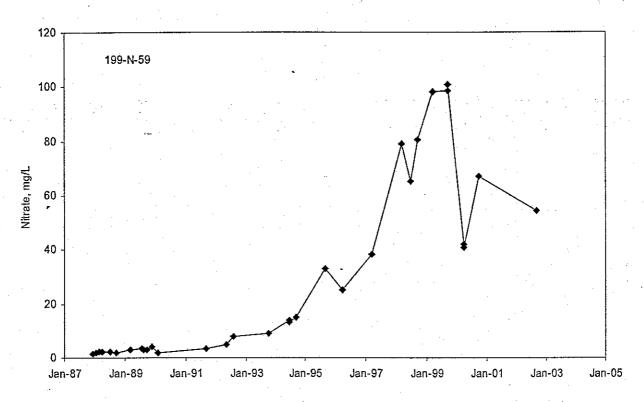


Figure 1.6. Long-Term Nitrate Trend in Well 199-N-59, Monitoring 1324-N and 1324-NA Units

2.0 Conceptual Model

A groundwater conceptual model is an evolving hypothesis that identifies the important features, events, and processes that control groundwater and contaminant movement. This model is based on results of previous geological and hydrogeological studies, sediment sampling, and groundwater monitoring. Primary references are Hartman and Lindsey (1993), Gilmore et al. (1992), DOE (2002), and groundwater monitoring annual reports (e.g., Hartman et al. 2003). The model provides a basis for designing a groundwater monitoring project.

The conceptual model for the 1324-N and 1324-NA units includes the following elements:

- The uppermost aquifer is unconfined, ~12-15 meters thick, and is contained in a sand and gravel unit
 in the Ringold Formation. Gilmore et al. (1992) estimated a representative range of transmissivity
 for the 100-N Area to be 93 to 560 m²/d.
- The base of the uppermost aquifer is a fine-grained unit of interbedded silt and clay. The existence of deeper confined aquifers in the Ringold sediment and in the basalt-confined aquifer system is inferred on the basis of geologic interpretation and limited borehole data from the surrounding area, but there is little potential for downward migration of 100-N Area contaminants.
- Because the site has been backfilled and revegetated, most of the precipitation is removed by evapotranspiration. Thus, little infiltration will occur through the site.
- The 1324-N Surface Impoundment did not leak and, therefore, did not contaminate the vadose zone or groundwater.
- The 1324-NA Percolation Pond introduced nonhazardous contaminants, primarily-sulfate and sodium, through the vadose zone to groundwater. The pH of the effluent ranged from 1 to 14, causing it to be classified as hazardous, but mixing in the pond and neutralization in the sediment prevented the high-pH or low-pH water from reaching groundwater.
- While the percolation pond was active, artificial recharge formed a groundwater mound that created radial flow. Chemical impacts from the pond discharge migrated an unknown distance inland. After use of the pond ceased, groundwater flow returned to a northwest or north direction.
- Sulfate and sodium move readily with groundwater toward the north and northwest to the Columbia River. There appears to be continuing drainage of water from the vadose zone, since concentrations remain high many years after disposal ceased. These constituents cause the groundwater to have a high specific conductance.
- Sodium exchanges for calcium in vadose and aquifer sediments, which causes sodium concentrations in groundwater to decline while calcium concentrations increase as the water moves downgradient.

3.0 Groundwater Monitoring Program

This section describes the post-closure RCRA monitoring program for the 1324-N and 1324-NA units. The objective of monitoring is to track plume extent and contaminant trends until final cleanup decisions are made. The choices of wells, analyses, and sampling frequency included in this plan were based on data quality objectives as described in *Guidance for the Data Quality Objectives Process*, EPA/600/R-96/055 (QA/G-4), 2000 as revised.

3.1 Monitoring Well Network

The post-closure monitoring network (Table 3.1) includes:

- Four near-field wells adjacent to 1324-N and 1324-NA (199-N-59, 199-N-72, 199-N-73, and 199-N-77) to track concentration trends in the area of highest contamination.
- One upgradient well to provide information on groundwater quality not affected by 1324-N or 1324-NA.
- Eleven wells farther downgradient of the facilities to define the sulfate plume at levels below the secondary drinking water standard.

Data from additional wells that are sampled for the objectives of other RCRA units, 100 NR-2 Operable Unit, or the *Atomic Energy Act*, will be used to define and track the sulfate plume at levels below the secondary drinking water standard.

All of the wells except 199-N-77 monitor the top of the unconfined aquifer. Well 199-N-77 monitors the bottom of the unconfined aquifer, with the screen placed above a fine-grained unit in the Ringold Formation. As-built diagrams of the wells are included in the Appendix but are not considered an element to be incorporated into the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit.

If a monitoring well becomes unsuitable for use, Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) will be notified in writing. The monitoring program will be re-evaluated to determine if a new or existing well should be substituted. If a new well must be installed, it will be incorporated into the M-24 priority list.

3.2 Constituent List and Sampling Frequency

Sulfate and sodium are the primary constituents of interest for 1324-N and 1324-NA RCRA groundwater monitoring. Additional constituents will continue to be monitored for supporting information (see Table 3.1).

The downgradient, near-field wells will be sampled semiannually to provide a clear record of chemistry trends. The upgradient wellOther wells will be sampled annually (see Table 3.1).

Table 3.1 Wells for Post-Closure Monitoring at the 1324-N and 1324-NA Units.

			.	**	Co	nstitue	nts		•			
			<u>Pri</u>	mary	<u>S</u> 1	<u>ipporti</u>	ng	1				
			Const	ituents	Int	erpreta	tion	<u> </u>	Field	l Para	meters	
<u>Well</u>	Purpose: Comments	Well Standard ^(a)	Sulfate	Sodium	Alkalinity	Anions(b)	Metals, filtered ^(c)	Specific Conductance	Hd	Temperature	Turbidity	Water Levels
199-N-2	Far-field plume definition	PRE	A	<u>A</u>	A	'A	A	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u> ,	<u>A</u>	Α	A
199-N-3	Far-field plume definition	PRE			<u>A</u>	A		<u>A</u>			A	
199-N-16	Far-field plume definition	PRE	$\frac{\mathbf{A}}{\mathbf{A}}$	Ā	A	_ A	Ā	A	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>
199-N-19 ^(d)	Far-field plume definition	<u>PRE</u>	<u>A</u> -	<u>A</u>	Ā	A	<u>A</u> .	<u>A</u>	A	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	A
199-N-21 ^(d)	Far-field plume definition	<u>PRE</u>	A A A A A	A A A A A A SA	<u>A</u> <u>A</u> <u>A</u>	A A A A A A A A A SA	A A A A A A A	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>
199-N-26 ^(d)	Far-field plume definition	PRE	A	A	<u>A</u>	A	<u>A</u>	A	A		<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>
<u>199-N-34</u>	Far-field plume definition	<u>PRE</u>	A	<u>A</u> -	A	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	A A A A SA
<u>199-N-56</u>	Far-field plume definition	WAC	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	A	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	A	<u>A</u> -	<u>A</u>	A	A
<u>199-N-57</u>	Far-field plume definition	WAC	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	A	<u>A</u>	A	A	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>SA</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	Δ
<u>199-N-59</u>	Near-field plume; sometimes	<u>WAC</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>\$A</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>\$A</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>
	dry(e); highest sulfate	ľ										
	concentrations	i										
<u>199-N-64</u>	Far-field plume definition	WAC	Α	<u>A</u>	A	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	. <u>Å</u> 3-35,-	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	A	A	<u>A</u>
<u>199-N-67</u>	Far-field plume definition	WAC	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	A A	A	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>	Α	<u>Α</u> <u>Α</u>
<u>199-N-71</u>	Upgradient	WAC	A	<u>A</u>		A	A	Δ	A	Α	<u>A</u>	A
<u>199-N-72</u>	Near-field plume	WAC .	<u>SA</u> <u>SA</u> <u>SA</u>	<u>A</u> <u>A</u> <u>SA</u> <u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	SA	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u> </u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u> <u>SA</u>
<u>199-N-73</u>	Near-field plume	WAC .	<u>SA</u>			<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u> .	<u>SA</u> .	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u> :
<u>199-N-77</u>	Near-field plume; bottom of	WAC	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>SA</u>
·	aquifer		<u> </u>									

⁽a) PRE = Well not constructed to Washington Administrative Code (WAC 173-160) standards.

3.3 Water Level Monitoring

Samplers measure depth to water in each well-before sampling, according to a subcontractor procedure. Field personnel measure depth to water before sampling, or at other times as specified by the groundwater project (e.g., annual water-level measurements). The tapes used to make depth measurements are periodically periodically calibrated. Field personnel obtain two consecutive measurements that agree within 6 mm (0.02 feet) and record them along with date, time, measuring tape number, and other pertinent information. The dDepth to water is subtracted from the elevation of a reference point (usually top of casing) to obtain water-level elevation. Water-level elevations are used to construct water-table maps of 100-N Area.

WAC = Well constructed to Washington Administrative Code (WAC 173-160) standards.

⁽b) Anions analysis includes at a minimum chloride, nitrate, and sulfate.

⁽c) Metals analysis includes at a minimum calcium, magnesium, potassium, and sodium. Analyses will be run on filtered samples pending Ecology's policy decision on filtered/unfiltered metals.

⁽d) Candidates for decommissioning. If any of these wells are decommissioned. Ecology will be notified and the monitoring program will be reevaluated to determine if new well(s) are needed.

⁽e) Well 199-N-59 was drilled when the 1324-NA pond had artificially raised the water table. When the water table is low, it does not contain enough water to sample.

Groundwater flow direction beneath the 1324-N and 1324-NA units is inferred from the water-table map(s) and plume maps. Rate of flow is estimated from hydraulic gradient, hydraulic conductivity, and perosity or from rates of contaminant movement.

3.4 Sampling and Analysis Protocol

RCRA groundwater monitoring for the 1324-N and 1324-NA units is part of Hanford's groundwater project and follows the project's quality assurance protocolsplan. Groundwater monitoring for these units will follow the requirements of the most recent revision of the project quality assurance project planprotocols; this monitoring plan need not be revised to cite future revisions of the quality assurance planthose protocols.

Project staff schedule sampling and initiate paperwork. The project uses subcontractors and oversee for sample collection, shipping, and analysis. Quality requirements for the any subcontracted work subcontracted are specified in statements of work or contracts.

The statement of work for sampling activities specifies that those activities will be conducted shall be in accordance with a quality assurance project plan that meets the requirements defined in *Requirements* for Quality Assurance Project Plans, EPA/240/B-01/003 (EPA QA/R-5), March 2001 as revised. Additional requirements are specified in the statement of work.

Groundwater project staff conduct laboratory audits and field surveillances to assess the quality of subcontracted work and initiate corrective action if needed.

3.4.1 Scheduling Groundwater Sampling

The groundwater project schedules well sampling. Many Hanford Site wells are sampled for multiple objectives and requirements; e.g., RCRA, CERCLA, and AEA. Scheduling activities help manage the overlap, eliminating redundant sampling and meeting the needs of each sampling objective. Scheduling activities include the following:

- Each fiscal year, project scientists provide well lists, constituent lists, and sampling frequency. Each
 month, project scientists review the sampling schedule for the following month. Changes are
 requested via change request forms and approved by the sampling and analysis task lead and
 monitoring project manager.
- Project staff track sampling and analysis through an electronic schedule database stored on a server at PNNL. Quality control samples also are managed through this database. A scheduling program generates unique sample numbers, and a special user interface generates sample authorization forms, field services reports, groundwater sample reports, chain-of-custody forms, and sample container labels.
- Sampling and analysis staff verify that such things as well name, sample numbers, bottle sizes, and
 preservatives, etc. are indicated properly on the paperwork, which is transmitted to the sampling

subcontractorsample collector. Staff complete a checklist to document that verify that the paperwork was generated correctly.

• At each month's end, project staff use the schedule database to determine if any wells were not sampled as scheduled. If the wells or sampling pumps require maintenance, it sampling is rescheduled following repair. If a well can no longer be sampled it is cancelled, and the reason is recorded in the database. DOE will notify Ecology if sampling is delayed past the end of the scheduled quarter or if a well cannot be sampled (see Sections 3.1 and 5.4). Should repairs require an extended effort (more than 60 days), Ecology will be consulted and a repair schedule approved.

3.4.2 Chain of Custody

The sampling subcontractor sample collector uses chain-of-custody forms to document the integrity of groundwater samples from the time of collection through data reporting. The forms are generated during scheduling (see Section 3.4.1) and managed_through a subcontractor procedure by the sample collector. Samplers enter required information on the forms, including the following:

- Sampler's name(s)
- Method of shipment and destination
- Collection date and time
- Sample identification numbers
- Analysis methods
- Preservation methods.

When samples are transferred from one custodian to another (e.g., from sampler to shipper or shipper to analytical laboratory), the receiving custodian inspects the form and samples and notes any deficiencies. Each transfer of custody is documented by the printed names and signatures of the custodian relinquishing the samples and the custodian receiving the samples, and the time and date of transfer.

3.4.3 Sample Collection

All of the wells in the 1324-N/NA network are equipped with dedicated sampling pumps. Field personnel measure water levels in each well prior to sampling (see Section 3.3), then purge stagnant water from the well. Groundwater samples are collected according to subcontractor's procedures. Samples generally are collected after three casing volumes of water have been purged from the well or after field parameters (pH, temperature, specific conductance, and turbidity) have stabilizedi.e., after two consecutive measurements are within 0.2 units pH, 0.2°C for temperature, 10% for specific conductance, and turbidity <5 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU)].

For routine groundwater samples, preservatives are added to the collection bottles, if necessary, before their use in the field. Samples for metals analyses will be are filtered in the field with 0.45micrometer, in-line, disposable filters. After sampling, pH, temperature and specific conductance are measured again. Sample bottles are sealed with evidence tape and placed in a cooler with ice for shipping.

The samplers record the date, time, personnel, field measurements, and other pertinent information and complete the chain of custody form as described in Section 3.4.2.

3.4.4 Analytical Protocols

Instruments for Procedures for field measurements are specified in subcontractor's procedures. ield measurements (e.g., pH, specific conductance, temperature, and turbidity) are calibrated using standard solutions prior to use and are operated according to manufacturer's instructions and are operated according to manufacturer's instructions. Each instrument is assigned a unique number that is tracked on field documentation and calibrated and controlled according to procedure. Additional calibration and use instructions are specified in the instrument user manuals.

Laboratory analytical methods are specified in contracts with the laboratories, and are standard methods from *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes, Physical/Chemical Methods* (EPA/SW-846 as amended) or *Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes* (EPA-600/4-79-020, 1983).

4.0 Quality Assurance

The groundwater project's quality assurance plan-protocols meets EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans, EPA/240/B-01/003 (EPA QA/R-5), March 2001 as revised. A quality control plan-protocol is included in the groundwater project quality assurance plandocumentation, and quality control sampling requirements for subcontracted work are discussed in the statement of work with the subcontractor.

The groundwater project's quality control program is designed to assess and enhance the reliability and validity of groundwater data. This is accomplished through evaluating the results of quality control samples, conducting audits, and validating groundwater data. This section describes the quality control program for the entire groundwater project, which includes 1324-N and 1324-NA units. The quality control practices of the groundwater project are based on EPA guidance—from the EPA as described in the Tri-Party Agreement Action Plan, Section 6.5 (Ecology, et al., 1998). Accuracy, precision, and detection are the primary parameters used to assess data quality (Mitchell et al. 1985). Data for these parameters are obtained from two categories of quality control samples: those that provide checks on field and laboratory activities (field quality control) and those that monitor laboratory performance (laboratory quality control). Table 4.1 summarizes the types of samples in each category and the sample frequencies and characteristics evaluated.

Table 4.1. Quality Control Samples

Sample Type	Primary Characteristics Evaluated	Frequency
Field Quality Control		
Full Trip Blank	Contamination from containers or transportation	1 per 20 well trips
Field Transfer Blank ^(a)	Airborne contamination from the sampling site	I each day volatile organic compound samples are collected
Equipment Blank ^(b)	Contamination from nondedicated sampling equipment	1 per 10 well trips or as needed ^(c)
Duplicate Samples	Reproducibility	1 per 20 well trips
Laboratory Quality Contro	ol	
Method Blank	Laboratory contamination	1 per batch
Lab Duplicates	Laboratory reproducibility	Method/contract specific ^(d)
Matrix Spike	Matrix effects and laboratory accuracy	Method/contract specific ^(d)
Matrix Spike Duplicate	Laboratory reproducibility and accuracy	Method/contract specific(d)
Surrogates	Recovery/yield	Method/contract specific(d)
Laboratory Control Sample	Accuracy	1 per batch
Double Blind Standards	Accuracy and precision	Varies by constituent(e)

- (a) Not applicable for 1324-N and 1324-NA no volatile constituents analyzed.
- (b) Not applicable for 1324-N and 1324-NA dedicated sampling equipment used.
- (c) When a new type of non-dedicated sampling equipment is used, an equipment blank should be collected every time sampling occurs until it can be shown that less frequent collection of equipment blanks is adequate to monitor the equipment's decontamination procedure.
- (d) If called for by the analytical method, duplicates, matrix spikes, and matrix spike duplicates are typically analyzed at a frequency of 1 per 20 samples. Surrogates are routinely included in every sample for most gas chromatographic methods.
- (e) Double blind standards containing known concentrations of selected analytes are typically submitted in triplicate or quadruplicate on a quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis.

4.1 Quality Control Criteria

Quality control data are evaluated based on established acceptance criteria for each quality control sample type. For field and method blanks, the acceptance limit is generally two times the instrument detection limit (metals), or method detection limit (other chemical parameters). However, for common laboratory contaminants such as acetone, methylene chloride, 2-butanone, and phthalate esters, the limit is five times the method detection limit. Groundwater samples that are associated (i.e., collected on the same date and analyzed by the same method) with out-of-limit field blanks are flagged with a "Q" in the database to indicate a potential contamination problem.

Field duplicates must agree within 20%, as measured by the relative percent difference (RPD), to be acceptable. Only those field duplicates with at least one result greater than five times the appropriate detection limit are evaluated. Unacceptable field duplicate results are also flagged with a "Q" in the database.

The acceptance criteria for laboratory duplicates, matrix spikes, matrix spike duplicates, surrogates, and laboratory control samples are generally derived from historical data at the laboratories in accordance with *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes, Physical/Chemical Methods* (EPA/SW-846 as amended). Typical acceptance limits are within 25% of the expected values, although the limits may vary considerably with the method and analyte. Current values for laboratory duplicates, matrix spikes, and laboratory control samples are 20% RPD, 60%-140%, and 70%-130%, respectively. These values are subject to change if the contract is modified or replaced.

Table 4.2 lists the acceptable recovery limits for the double blind standards. These samples are prepared by spiking background well water (currently wells 699-19-88 and 699-49-100C) with known concentrations of constituents of interest. Spiking concentrations range from the detection limit to the upper limit of concentration determined in groundwater on the Hanford Site. Double blind standard results that are outside the acceptance limits are investigated, and appropriate actions are taken if necessary.

Holding time is the elapsed time period between sample collection and analysis. Exceeding recommended holding times could result in changes in constituent concentrations due to volatilization, decomposition, or other chemical alterations. Recommended holding times depend on the analytical method, as specified in *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes, Physical/Chemical Methods* (EPA/SW-846 as amended) or *Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes* (EPA-600/4-79-020, 1983). These hHolding times are specified in laboratory contracts. Data associated with exceeded holding times are flagged with an "H" in the Hanford Environmental Information System (HEIS) database.

Additional quality control measures include laboratory audits and participation in nationally based performance evaluation studies. The contract laboratories participate in national studies such as the EPA-sanctioned Water Pollution and Water Supply Performance Evaluation studies. The groundwater project periodically audits the analytical laboratories to identify and solve quality problems, or to prevent such problems. Audit results are used to improve performance. Summaries of audit results and performance evaluation studies are presented in the annual groundwater monitoring report.

Table 4.2. Rec	overy Limits for	Double Blind	Standards
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ency R	ecovery Limits	Precision Limits (RSD)
terly	75–125%	25%
terly	75–125%	25%
Ē	rterly rterly	rterly 75–125%

4.2 Groundwater Data Validation Process

The groundwater project's data validation process provides requirements and guidance for validation of groundwater data that are routinely collected as part of the groundwater project. Validation is a systematic process of reviewing data against a set of criteria to determine whether the data are acceptable for their intended use. This process applies to groundwater data that have been verified (see Section 5.1) and loaded into HEIS. The outcome of the activities described below is an electronic data set with suspect or erroneous data corrected or flagged. Groundwater project staff document the validation process quarterly by signing a checklist, which. Documentation is stored in the project file.

Responsibilities for data validation are divided among project staff. Each RCRA unit or geographic region is assigned to a project scientist, who is familiar with the hydrogeologic conditions of that site. The data validation process includes the following elements.

- Generation of data reports: Twice each month, data management staff provide tables of newly loaded data to project scientists for evaluation (biweekly reports). Also, after laboratory results from a reporting quarter have been loaded into HEIS, staff produce tables of water-level data and analytical data for wells sampled within that quarter (quarterly reports). The quarterly data reports include any data flags added during the quality control evaluation or as a result of prior data review.
- Project scientist evaluation: As soon as practical after receiving biweekly reports, project scientists review the data to identify changes in groundwater quality or potential data errors. Evaluation techniques include comparing key constituents to historical trends or spatial patterns. Other data checks may include comparison of general parameters to their specific counterparts (e.g., conductivity to ions) and calculation of charge balances. Project scientists request data reviews if appropriate (see Section 5.2). If necessary, the laboratory may be asked to check calculations or reanalyze the sample, or the well may be resampled. After receiving quarterly reports, project scientists review sampling summary tables to determine whether network wells were sampled and analyzed as scheduled. If not, they work with other project staff to resolve the problem. Project scientists also review quarterly reports of analytical and water-level data using the same techniques as for biweekly reports. Unlike the biweekly reports, the quarterly reports usually include a full data set (i.e., all the data from the wells sampled during the previous quarter have been received and loaded into HEIS).
- Staff report results of quality control evaluations informally to project staff, DOE-Pacific-Northwest Site Office (PNSO), and Ecology each quarter. Results for each fiscal year are described in the annual groundwater monitoring report.

5.0 Data Management and Reporting

This section describes how groundwater data are stored, retrieved, and interpreted.

5.1 Loading and Verifying Data

The contract laboratories report analytical results electronically and in hard copy. The electronic results are loaded into HEIS. Hard copy data reports and field records are maintained as part of the Hanford Facility operating record, unit specific file for the TSD unit. Project staff perform an array of computer checks on the electronic file for formatting, allowed values, data flagging (qualifiers), and completeness. Verification of the hard copy results includes checks for (1) completeness, (2) notes on condition of samples upon receipt by the laboratory, (3) notes on problems that arose during the analysis of the samples, and (4) correct reporting of results. If data are incomplete or deficient, staff work with the laboratory to get the problems corrected. Notes on condition of samples or problems during analysis may be used to support data reviews (see Section 5.2).

Field data such as specific conductance, pH, temperature, turbidity, and depth-to-water are recorded on field records. Data management staff enter these into HEIS manually through data-entry screens, verify each value against the hard copy, and initial each value on the hard copy.

5.2 Data Review

The groundwater project conducts special reviews of groundwater analytical data or field measurements when results are in question. Groundwater project staff document the process on a review form, and results are used to flag the data appropriately in HEIS. Various staff may initiate a review form: e.g., project scientists, data management staff, and quality control staff. The data review process includes the following steps:

- The initiator fills out required information on the review form, such as sample number, constituent, and reason for the request (e.g., "result is two orders of magnitude greater than historical results and disagrees with duplicate"). The initiator recommends an action, such as a data re-check, sample re-analysis, well re-sampling, or simply flagging the data as suspect in HEIS.
- The data review coordinator determines that the review form does not duplicate a previously submitted review form, then assigns a unique review form number and records it on the form. A temporary flag is assigned to the data in HEIS indicating the data are undergoing review ("F" flag).
- If laboratory action is required, the data review coordinator records the laboratory's response on the review form. Other documentation also may be relevant, such as chain-of-custody forms, field records, calibration logs, or chemist's sheets.
- A project scientist assigned to examine a review form determines and records the appropriate
 response and action on the review form including changes to be made to the data flags in HEIS.
 Actions may include updating HEIS with corrected data or result of re-analysis, flagging existing

data (e.g., "R" for reject, "Y" for suspect, "G" for good), and/or adding comments. Data management staff updates the temporary "F" flag to the final flag in HEIS.

- The data review coordinator signs the review form to indicate its closure.
- If a review form is filed on data that are not "owned" by the groundwater project, the data review coordinator forwards a copy of the partially filled review form to the appropriate contact for their action. The review is then closed.

5.3 Interpretation

After data are validated and verified, the acceptable data are used to interpret groundwater conditions at the site. Interpretive techniques include:

- Hydrographs graph water levels vs. time to determine decreases, increases, seasonal, or manmade fluctuations in groundwater levels.
- Water-table maps use water-table elevations from multiple wells to construct contour maps to estimate flow directions. Groundwater flow is assumed to be perpendicular to lines of equal potential.
- Trend plots graph concentrations of constituents vs. time to determine increases, decreases, and fluctuations. May be used in tandem with hydrographs and/or water-table maps to determine if concentrations relate to changes in water level or in groundwater flow directions.
- Plume maps map distributions of chemical or radiological constituents in the aquifer to determine
 extent of contamination. Changes in plume distribution over time aid in determining movement of
 plumes and direction of flow.
- Contaminant ratios can sometimes be used to distinguish between different sources of contamination.

5.4 Reporting

Reporting requirements for sites undergoing groundwater corrective action state that "The owner or operator must report in writing to the department on the effectiveness of the corrective action program... semiannually." This can be accomplished under the groundwater project's existing quarterly reports. The quarterly reports also inform Ecology if sampling is delayed past the end of the scheduled quarter. Chemistry and water-level data are reviewed after each sampling event and are available in HEIS. When needed, DOE will report specific incidents affecting 1324-N and 1324-NA groundwater monitoring (e.g., unsuitable wells, delayed sampling) as described in Sections 3.1 and 3.4.1.

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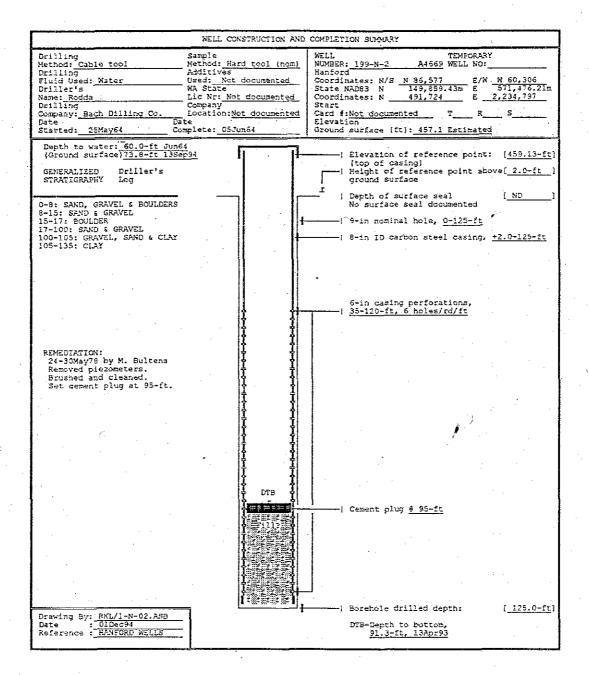
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Appendix

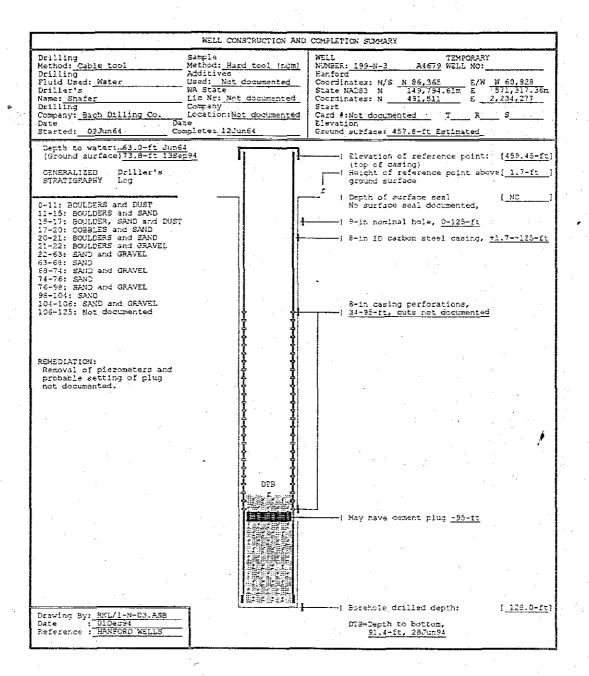
As-Built Diagrams of Monitoring Wells

This appendix contains diagrams of wells in the 1324-N and 1324-NA RCRA groundwater monitoring network. The diagrams summarize stratigraphy and well construction materials. The diagrams are presented in numerical order.

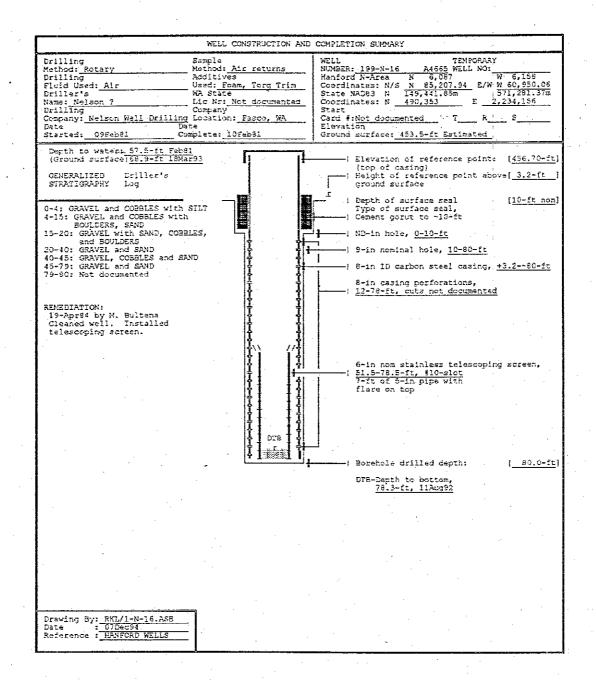
Well	Purpose; comments
199-N-2	Far-field plume definition
<u>199-N-3</u>	Far-field plume definition
199-N-16	Far-field plume definition
199-N-19	Far-field plume definition
<u>199-N-21</u>	Far-field plume definition
199-N-26	Far-field plume definition
199-N-34	Far-field plume definition
199-N-56	Far-field plume definition
199-N-57	Far-field plume definition
199-N-59	Near-field plume; sometimes dry(a);
	highest sulfate concentrations
<u>199-N-64</u>	Far-field plume definition
199-N-67	Far-field plume definition
199-N-71	<u>Upgradient</u>
<u>199-N-72</u>	Near-field plume
199-N-73	Near-field plume
<u> 199-N-77</u>	Near-field plume; bottom of aquifer
(a) Well 199-N-5	9 was drilled when the 1324-NA pond had



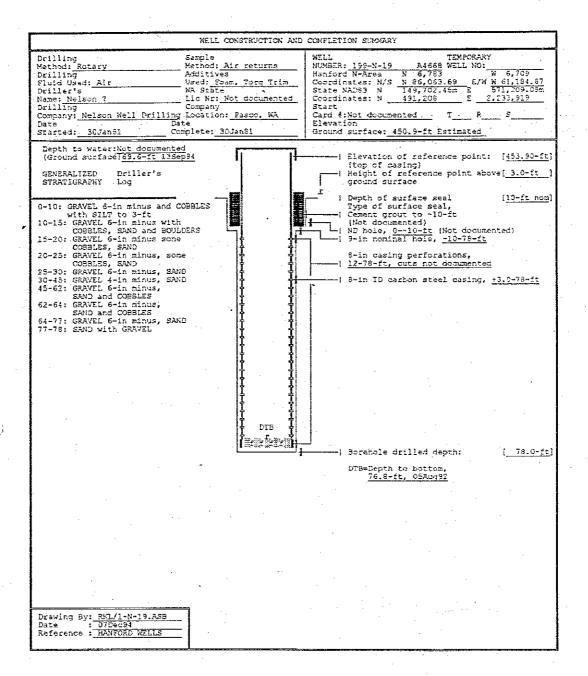
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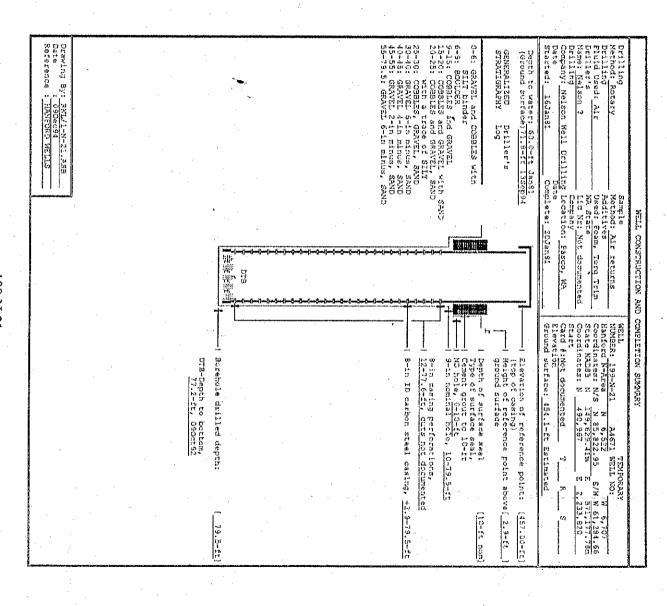
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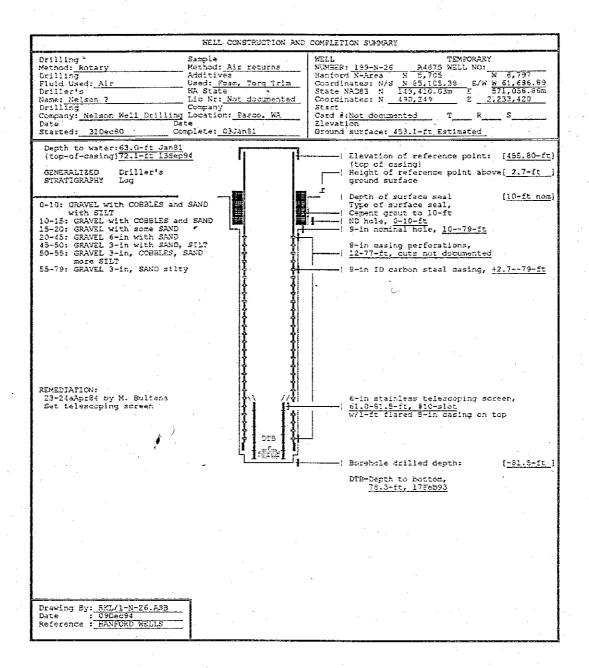
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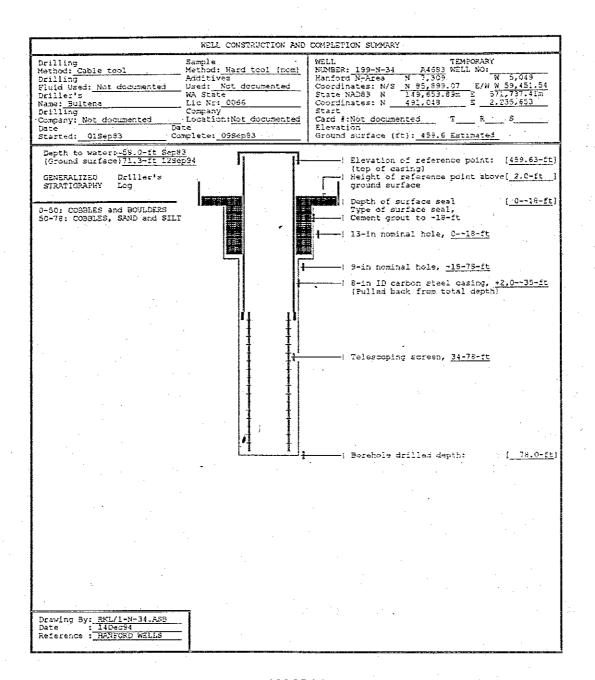
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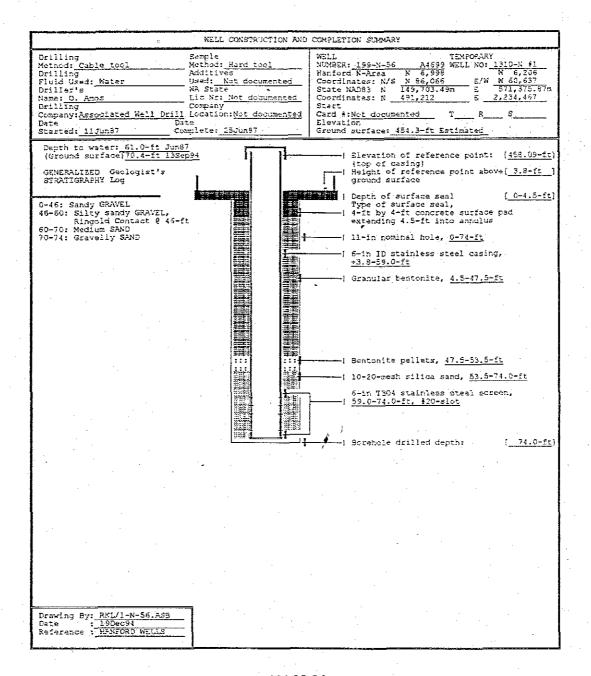
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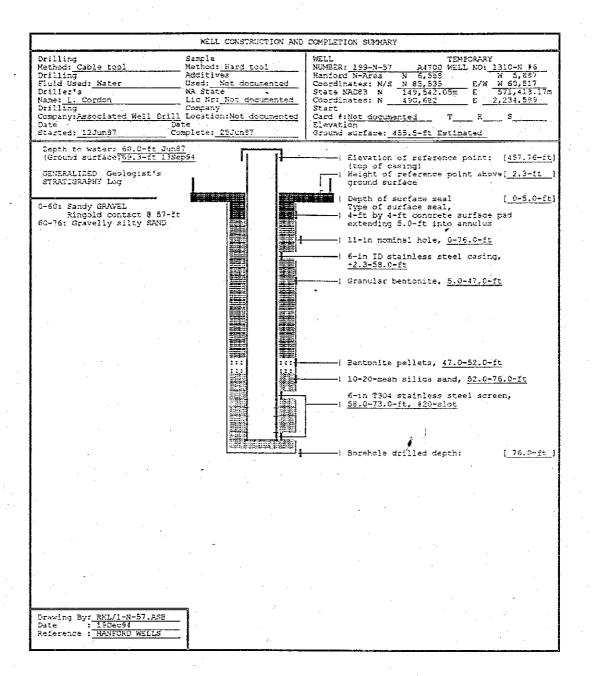
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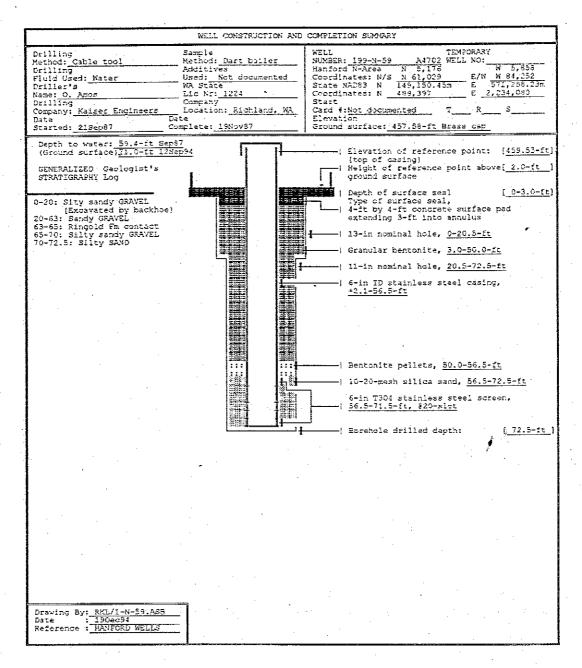
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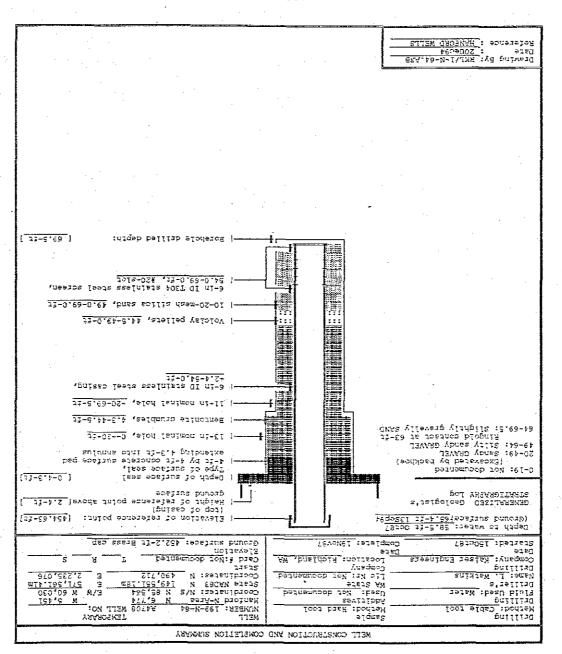
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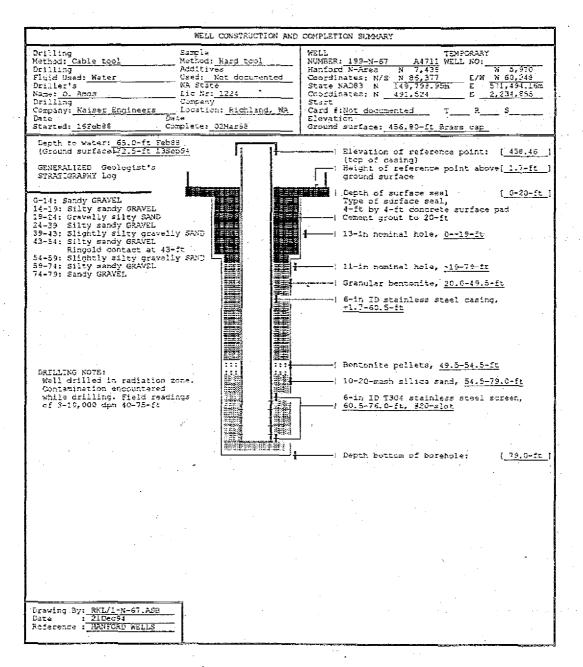
199-N-57



199-N-59

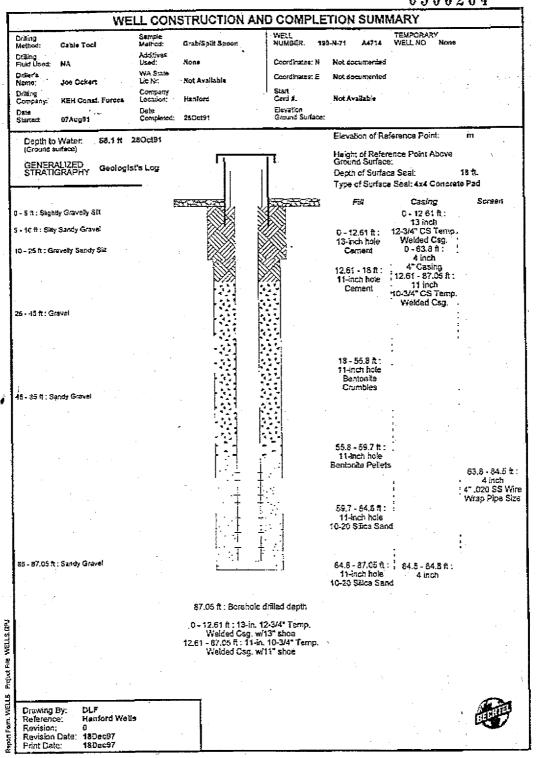


79-N-661

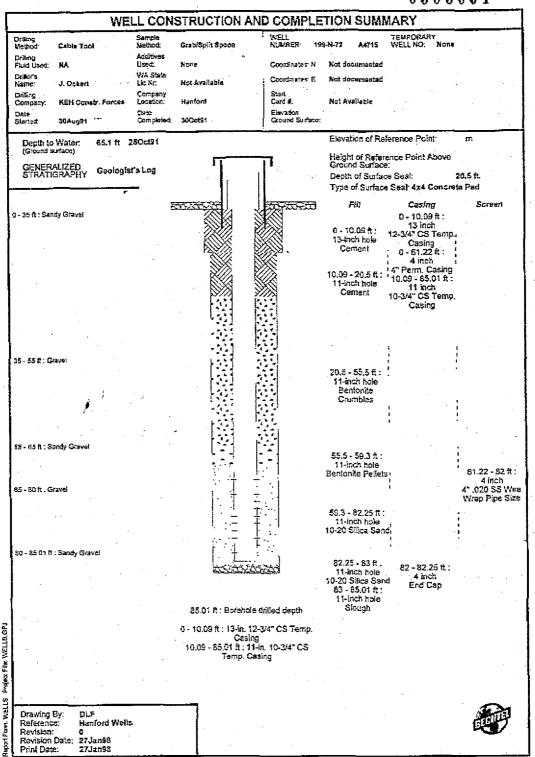


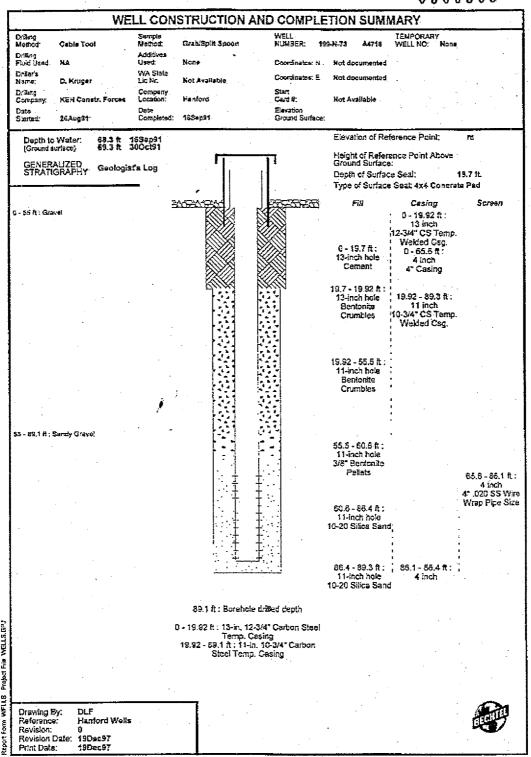
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0500264

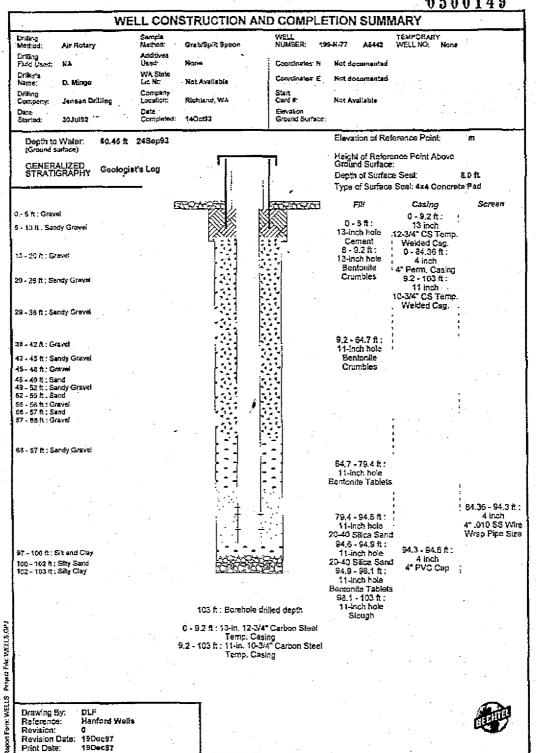


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